

# **Brownfields 2005 Grant Fact Sheet**

# Los Angeles Conservation Corps, CA

#### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The brownfields job training grants provide residents of communities impacted by brownfields with the skills and training needed to effectively gain employment in assessment and cleanup activities associated with brownfield redevelopment and environmental remediation. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

## Community Description

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps was selected to receive a job training grant. The grant will focus on the federally designated Los Angeles Empowerment Zone, a 19-square-mile area with a population of 163,229. The poverty rate in the Empowerment Zone is 40



## **Job Training Grant**

#### \$200,000

EPA has selected the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for a job training grant. The Los Angeles Conservation Corps plans to train 50 students, place 50 graduates in environmental jobs, and track graduates for one year. The 240-hour training program will offer instruction in HAZWOPER, lead abatement, asbestos abatement, forklift certification, and environmental technologies. The Los Angeles Conservation Corps will be the primary trainer. Students to be recruited will be low-income, unemployed, and underemployed residents of the Los Angeles Empowerment Zone, a 19-square-mile area with a population of 163,229. The Los Angeles Conservation Corps has established a Brownfields Advisory Board comprised mainly of environmental employers who will assist with job placement.

#### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team 415-972-3143 or 415-972-3270 http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html

Grant Recipient: Los Angeles Conservation Corps, CA 213-749-3601, ext. 204

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

percent, and unemployment is 18 percent. These compare to state-wide averages of 14 percent and seven percent, respectively. There are thousands of vacant and underused properties in Los Angeles, many of which are located along commercial and industrial

corridors and are suspected to be contaminated. The location of these properties makes their economic potential very high. The Los Angeles Brownfields Revitalization Fund and other sources of funding are spurring increased redevelopment activity in the Empowerment Zone. Environmental employers participating in the city's Brownfields Advisory Board have described increasing needs for certified environmental technicians.